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Metro's Weather Report

NOAA-NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
39° | 31°	42° | 34°	45° | 34°	45° | 33°	46° | 33°
Rain then Rain/Snow	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny

U.S. President Donald Trump holds a bilateral meeting with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson (L) on the sidelines of the annual United Nations General Assembly in New York City, New York, U.S. on September 24, 2019. REUTERS

Trump off to London for NATO summit, under pressure to steer clear of British election

Trump has been supportive of Brexit in the past.

U.S. President Donald Trump leaves on Monday for a NATO summit in London and he is under pressure from British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to resist the temptation to wade into the British election campaign coming up later in December.

As a presidential candidate in 2016 and then as president since early 2017, Trump has shown no restraint in showing support for Britain's exit from the European Union and critiquing the politicians involved in the country's long-running Brexit debate.

But with Johnson leading polls as he faces Dec. 12 elections, the prime minister who is hosting the London NATO summit wants Trump to mind the guard-rails, putting Trump in the unusual position of trying to avoid his normal impulse to comment on whatever he wishes.

Trump waded into the election in October by saying opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn would be "so bad" for Britain and that Johnson should agree on a pact with Brexit Party leader Nigel Farage.

Johnson's pressure prompted the White House to stress, as a senior administration official said, that Trump "is absolutely cognizant of not, again, wading into other country's elections."

That strategy could be put to the test as Trump faces reporters a number of times on the trip, including at what is expected to be a news conference on Wednesday.

The NATO summit takes place as Trump battles an effort led by Democrats who control the U.S. House of Representatives to force his removal from office through impeachment over his pressure on Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden.

The impeachment imbroglio has overshadowed Trump's presidency as he looks ahead to his own re-election fight next November.

Trump, who got back to the United States on Friday from a whirlwind trip to Afghanistan, arrives in London on Monday night for two days of meetings with NATO leaders gathered for the summit.

He will have separate talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and attend a working lunch with representatives from Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Lithuania, Bulgaria, and the United Kingdom. U.S. officials see the NATO summit as a celebratory moment for Trump as his pressure on member nations has led many to increase their military spending.

He is expected to seek support from member nations to increase pressure on China for what the United States sees as Beijing's expansionist policies.

"China is actively seeking a great presence and more influence across the globe, including in NATO's area of responsibility," said a senior administration official. REUTERS

> **"China is actively seeking a great presence and more influence across the globe, including in NATO's area of responsibility."**
>
> Senior administration official

Shootouts in northern Mexico kill 21

2 Clashes between police and suspected cartel gunmen in a northern Mexican town killed 21 people this weekend, authorities said, adding fuel to bilateral tensions sparked by U.S. President Donald Trump's vow to designate the drug gangs as terrorists. Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who is pushing a less confrontational approach to subduing the cartels, repeated on Sunday that he would not accept any intervention from abroad, while doubling down on his strategy of containment. But the killings clouded celebrations marking his first year in office, which were buffeted by a march in Mexico City by thousands of people protesting the violence. The government of the northern state of Coahuila said local security forces killed seven gunmen early on Sunday, and 10 others in and around the town of Villa Union. REUTERS

Death toll from Lampedusa shipwreck rises to 18

3 The bodies of five migrants who died when a boat capsized in rough waters off the southern Lampedusa coast a week ago have been found, Italy's coast guard said on Sunday, bringing the overall death toll to 18. The boat, which survivors said had departed from Libya taking advantage of a respite in bad weather, was believed to carry some 170 people. The Lampedusa coast guard managed to bring safely onshore 147 migrants after the accident on Nov. 23. After the new bout of bad weather blocked search operations for several days, on Sunday six coast guard divers helped by a remotely-operated submarine found four bodies underwater and a fifth one floating. "We can only listen to the silence of the dead," Lampedusa mayor Totò Martello said. REUTERS

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The snow seen in Center City on the morning of Feb. 11, 2019. COURTESY OF OFFICE OF THE PHILADELPHIA CITY REPRESENTATIVE/@ PHILLYCITYREP

It's beginning to look a lot like winter in Philly

Pennsylvania is expected to be hit with its first big winter storm.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Governor Wolf warns that two powerful winter storms are making their way to Pennsylvania. The weather will impact Pennsylvanian until Tuesday.

Gov. Wolf said in a press release, "The Thanksgiving holiday weekend will end with some potentially dangerous winter weather, making safety and preparedness even more important as folks travel. Please heed the advice of weather forecasters and emergency professionals and consider altering travel plans if necessary. I want everyone to have had a wonderful holiday weekend, and safe travel is tantamount to that goal."

Starting in southwest Pennsylvania and traveling northeast, the state is expected to see ice, snow and heavy winds, which are expected to cause issues for those traveling home from Thanksgiving weekend, according to weather.gov. With the state under a winter weather and hazardous weather outlook advisory, not a lot of snowfall is expected, but rather a wintry mix of adverse elements.

To stay safe, Gov. Wolf suggests staying home is possible. If you need to travel, check in with PennDOT and Pennsylvania Turnpike resources to see the road conditions.

"With a storm like this, a difference of just a few degrees can quickly change weather and road conditions," Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Director Randy Padfield said in a press release.

Padfield added, "Make sure you have emergency supplies in your car if you must travel, and stay in touch with neighbors so you can help each other if you lose power."

Gov. Wolf offered additional comment: "I cannot stress enough the importance for everyone to heed weather forecasts, listen to directions from emergency officials, plan accordingly, and check in on your neighbors, especially the elderly."

BRIEF

Philly Park system expands curfew hours

From Dec. 1 and continuing through March 31, 2020, the Philadelphia Parks & Recreation have expanded their curfew hours. Many parks will be closed for extended hours (8 p.m. to 6 a.m.) to protect the public while deer control activities are taking place.

The deer control activities have been conducted in Philly parks since 1999, Metro reports.

The program is facilitated by the US Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services with the parks and recreation staff to help keep the deer population stable throughout the city. The Parks and Recreation department protects overs 10,200 acres of public land and waterways.

Metro reports that last year 324 deer were removed between December and April.

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10 wounded in shooting in New Orleans' French Quarter

Early Sunday morning, a shooting incident occurred.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

New Orleans officials say that ten people were injured during a shooting early Sunday. The incident took place in the famed French Quarter.

Out of the 10, it was reported by ABC that at least two victims are listed in critical condition. The shooting occurred at 3:21 a.m. on a block of Canal Street according to New Orleans PD. The area is populated with many hotels and streetcars.

The mayor of New Orleans, LaToya Cantrell, tweeted out yesterday morning, "When people resort to gun violence to resolve problems, it never creates solutions — only innocent victims and trauma."

$5K

Crimestoppers is offering up to $5,000 for anyone who calls in with information about the suspects.

As of mid-afternoon Sunday, no arrests have been made. However, Police Supt. Shaun Ferguson told The New Orleans Advocate/The Times-Picayune that a person of interest was taken into custody. It is not clear at this time if the person of interest had any connection to the incident.

Police reported the ten victims were taken to University Medical Center and Tulane Medical Center. It was also reported that someone took a private vehicle to the hospital. No officers were reportedly harmed during the shooting.

Supt. Shaun Ferguson shared a full statement on Twitter, condemning the act of violence: "What happened in our city overnight was a cowardly and senseless act that we cannot and will not tolerate. While this investigation is in the very beginning stages, one thing is certain – we will not stop until we identify and arrest those responsible."

There were no updates of the names of the victims as of mid-afternoon Sunday.

Ferguson told outlets that police arrived quickly on scene since there was a heightened patrol due to a rivally football game between Grambling State and Southern University at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. It is known as the Bayou Classic.

Crimestoppers is offering up to $5,000 for anyone who calls in with information about the suspects. You can call at 504-658-6080 or anonymously to Crimestoppers at 504-822-1111.

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U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. GETTY IMAGES

Pompeo warns Iran over 'malign activity'

Secretary of State warns of consequences to acts of aggression.

ARIEL KAHANA & ISRAEL HAYOM
letters@metro.us

After Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced new sanctions against Iranian officials last week, the U.S. cabinet member gave an interview to Israel Hayom during which he issued a fresh warning to Tehran.

Aside from sanctions, the Trump administration's ongoing campaign to curb Iranian aggression "has also been political and diplomatic, to get countries around the world to recognize Iran as the largest state sponsor of terrorism," Pompeo explained.

"Just [last] week, the Iranians conducted an assassination campaign inside of Istanbul of an Iranian dissident," he said in the interview, which was published by the Israeli newspaper on Nov. 29. "This is not the stuff of normal nations. We are trying to unite the world alongside us, including the Europeans, who have taken a very different approach on the JCPOA [the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement], and President Trump is working to ensure that the Islamic Republic of Iran knows that they cannot engage in an activity like they have without there being a cost."

He continued, "You see an increase in our deterrence capabilities by our activity in the Strait of Hormuz, by developing a maritime security initiative, three weeks ago the U.S. announced an increase in U.S. forces and additional capabilities in Saudi Arabia, I announced arms sales to the region to assist the Saudis and the Emiratis, we hope that the combination of those things will restore deterrence to a level that is satisfactory, and the leadership will understand that there is a cost to their malign activity, wherever it takes place."

Asked about reports that he might leave the administration and run for the U.S. Senate next year, Pompeo said his plans "are to continue to be America's senior diplomat for as long as President Trump will permit me this incredible privilege."

"It's a joy to lead the State Department's great people all across the world, trying to work with friends like Israel to deliver security not only to the U.S. and Israel but to countries in our sphere and in our region and all around the world," he said. "So it is my full intention to stay as America's secretary of state so long as I continue to have the privilege and the authority that President Trump has been so gracious to grant me over the past year and a half."

> **"It's a joy to lead the State Department's great people all across the world, trying to work with friends like Israel to deliver security not only to the U.S. and Israel but to countries in our sphere and in our region and all around the world."**
>
> Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

This article was provided to Metro through an agreement with Israel Hayom news. Visit www.israelhayom.com for more coverage.

The truth about online reviews

PROVIDED

Cyber Monday is finally here. There's nothing better than getting a great deal while still in your pajamas. Before placing an order, do you ever check the reviews prior to purchasing an item? If you do, you're not alone, but do you actually believe what you read? If you believe everything you read online about an item, you might want to reconsider. A new study done by bestseocompanies.com discovered the truth about online reviews.

The company found that of 2.7 million online reviews analyzed, 39 percent were unreliable. To break it down further, 24 percent of all online products analyzed had more than 50 percent of unreliable reviews.

The survey showed that people often do read reviews prior to purchasing; however, specific categories are researched more often than others. Seventy-one percent of people read reviews before making an appliance purchase. Following appliances, 67.6 percent of people read reviews of electronics before purchasing. Rounding out the top five are laptops and computers (64.2 percent), restaurants (62.3 percent) and cellphones and accessories (53.1 percent.)

Eighty-eight percent of those surveyed wrote a review for a product or service within the past year. Fifty-two percent of respondents are likely to read reviews on Amazon, and 30 percent are likely to read Google reviews. Seventy percent of people surveyed said that they would pay more for products or items with higher reviews.

The study shed light on the fact that some of these reviews were explicitly requested. Fifteen percent of all respondents said that they had been asked to write a review for items they did not use nor purchase.

2.7M

A new study found that of the 2.7 million online reviews analyzed, 39 percent of them were unreliable.

Although other categories had higher percentages, electronics (195k), home decor (183k) and apparel (165k) had the highest volume of fake reviews. Topping the list of fake reviews was apparel with a whopping 46.2 percent of reviews faked. Shortly behind it comes the finding that 45.6 percent of home decor reviews were fake. Garden and outdoors raked in 42.1 percent of fake reviews. Coming in fourth place was 42 percent of all electronics reviews being faked. Rounding out the top five categories is automotive and industrial, with 39.1 percent of reviews faked.

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Pope Francis visits the nativity scene of Greccio, where the first nativity scene was assembled by St. Francis of Assisi in 1223, in the small Italian town of Greccio, Italy on December 1, 2019. REUTERS

As Christmas season starts, Pope defends nativity scenes in public places

The issue has been contentious in the U.S. and France.

Pope Francis on Sunday defended the display of nativity scenes in town squares and other public places, which has become an annual contentious issue at Christmas time in countries such as the United States and France.

The pope traveled to the town of Greccio, east of Rome, to visit the spot where St. Francis of Assisi started the tradition by setting up the first nativity scene in 1223.

There, he signed a papal document known as an Apostolic Letter and titled "Admirabile Signum," (Wonderful Sign) on the meaning and importance of the nativity scene.

"With this Letter, I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares," the document says.

Nativity scenes depict the birth of Jesus as Christians believe it took place - the baby and his mother posed in a humble stable setting with animals and shepherds, and kings bearing gifts who arrived days later.

The construction of such scenes in public squares or on government property is contested regularly by atheist, free speech or secularist groups.

In the United States, groups opposed to nativity scenes in public places say they violate the first amendment of the Constitution, which prohibits the establishment of a state religion.

In 1984, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of allowing nativity scenes in public places, saying that they were not an effort to establish or support a particular religion and also possessed what the court called "legitimate secular purposes."

Still, even after that ruling, American groups have regularly challenged their use or have demanded equal space on public property to promote their non-religious views.

In 2014 in France, a court order to dismantle a nativity scene in a town hall because it violated the country's secular tradition prompted a backlash, which won support from right-wing politicians.

In other parts of the document, the pope said the purpose of the nativity scene was to teach "that we cannot let ourselves be fooled by wealth and fleeting promises of happiness" and that they were a reminder to help those less fortunate.

"From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalized," he wrote.

Earlier, Francis urged people to resist the excesses of consumerism in the period leading up to Christmas, calling it a virus that attacks faith and offends the needy.

REUTERS

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British PM vows to strengthen prison sentences after London attack

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Sunday he would strengthen prison sentences, vowing to boost security after an attack in London by a man jailed for terrorism who had been released early.

Less than two weeks before Britain heads to the polls, law and order has taken top billing since Usman Khan, wearing a fake suicide vest and wielding knives, killed two people on Friday before being shot dead by police.

Johnson's Conservatives have championed tough police and prison measures, but opponents have criticized them for overseeing almost a decade of cuts to public services.

Johnson said if he won the Dec. 12 election, he would invest more in the prison system and toughen sentences.

"I absolutely deplore the fact that this man was out on the street, I think it was absolutely repulsive and we are going to take action," he told BBC interviewer Andrew Marr.

He portrayed his rival for prime minister, Jeremy Corbyn, as weak on crime, blaming the Labour Party for a law passed more than a decade ago that provided for some prisoners to be released early automatically.

Johnson said around 74 people convicted of serious offences had been released under the legislation, and that they are monitored to prevent any threat to the public. REUTERS

Messages of condolence and floral tributes, including a photograph of victim Jack Merritt, are seen near the scene of a stabbing on London Bridge, in London, Britain on December 1, 2019. REUTERS

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries An emotional situation will escalate if you let someone trap you into something you don't want to do. Don't lead someone on; be up-front, say no and do your own thing.

Taurus Concentrate on your life, not on getting involved in someone else's business. The time wasted doing things for others will end up costing you to miss out something you should do.

Gemini Keep your spirits high, your thoughts positive and your plans doable. Don't give in to someone trying to pressure or tempt you into something indulgent, risky or objectionable.

Cancer Stay calm and enjoy what you have instead of making comparisons to neighbors, relatives or peers. Life isn't a contest; the only one you should compete with is yourself.

Leo Distance yourself from people who are angry or pushy. Make an adjustment because you want to, not because someone is pressuring you.

Virgo Seize an opportunity. Gather information and facts, and don't be shy when it comes to presenting what you have to offer. Focus on personal gain, growth and happiness.

Libra Observe what others do and say. Don't respond if you aren't satisfied with the information you're given. Keep your emotions tucked away somewhere safe.

Scorpio Not everyone will be pleased with your accomplishments. Refuse to let someone's jealousy stand between you and the success you deserve. Let your instincts overrule emotional manipulation.

Sagittarius Rethink your objective. Consider if what you are currently doing will bring you the satisfaction you are searching for. Aim to take better care of your health, wealth and loved ones.

Capricorn Take care of business. Stand up, be a leader and achieve your goal. A passionate attitude will draw attention and give you a chance to weed out what's holding you back.

Aquarius Take a flexible approach when dealing with people who aren't compliant. Offer space and time for others to think matters through.

Pisces Turn possibilities into something tangible. It's up to you to go after what you want and to explore the best route to take. Distance yourself from emotional manipulators. EUGENIA LAST

5 ways you're shopping Cyber Monday all wrong

NerdWallet is a personal finance website.

You're one of the many shopping on Cyber Monday. But chances are you're going about it the wrong way.

Don't just spot a deal and put it in your cart. There's so much more to do before that part.

We put together a list of some of the most common shopping mistakes and how to fix them.

1. You're missing out on coupons

Cyber Monday is meant to be shopped online. So search coupon sites before you buy — it'll only take a little bit of your time.

Don't just settle for the Cyber Monday sale prices you see online. Chances are you can stack a coupon (or two or three) on top of those sales, according to Jenny Martin, the writer behind frugal-living website Southern Savers.

"With all of the online deals that are running, look for websites that are always going to let you stack multiple offers together," Martin says. "If they're not, I'd almost consider moving on."

Keep an eye out for percent-off coupon codes, free shipping codes and loyalty member discounts. For example, do you have Kohl's Cash you can redeem along with a Kohl's coupon? Victoria's Secret is another example of a retailer that allows multiple codes for online shoppers.

2. You're forgetting about Black Friday

Look back at Black Friday prices to remind yourself of the deals that were. And if Cyber Monday sales don't beat them, hold out a little while longer.

It's easy to assume everything is a great price on Cyber Monday, but not so fast. Look back at a retailer's Black Friday ad to see how the deals compare.

You may find that a deal isn't so great in comparison. If that's the case, consider skipping Cyber Monday and waiting for last-minute sales before Christmas.

Or, you may find that the deals are exactly the same as Black Friday's offers, Martin says. That can be a good reminder that limited-time deals aren't always as limited as they may seem.

ISTOCK

3. You're limiting yourself

Cyber Monday sales don't just happen at websites like Walmart, Best Buy and Target. In fact, cyber deals extend to products like hotels, plane tickets and even carpet.

Keep your shopping options open on Cyber Monday. Chances are you'll come across plenty of deals beyond electronics and toys.

Travel is a prime example, says Sarah Schlichter, senior editor at online travel magazine SmarterTravel. That includes hotel, airfare and tours as well as travel products like shoes, clothing and luggage.

Shop around for a vacation like you would anything else. For example, consult a hotel's own website as well as hotel search engine sites such as Hotels.com and Trivago.

4. You're skipping a step

Gift cards aren't just for gifting to friends and family. In fact, you can buy yourself a gift card on Cyber Monday — and spend it strategically.

Before you find a product, load it in your cart and hit checkout, take one step back and consider purchasing a gift card that you can use as your payment method when you shop.

At gift card marketplaces like Raise, you can buy a gift card for less than face value, then turn around and purchase discounted Cyber Monday products with it. It's like an added layer of savings.

At the time of this writing, we spotted Macy's gift cards for up to 5% off, Petco gift cards for up to 6% off and Ulta gift cards for up to 14.4% off at Raise.

5. You're feeling pressured

Much like Black Friday, Cyber Monday has become a weeklong affair. So keep checking back over the next few days for more deals on appliances, electronics or even furniture, like a chair.

There will be plenty of opportunities for sales, even after Cyber Monday is over. So don't feel compelled to shop now. If a deal isn't quite right, it's OK to hold off.

Perhaps most importantly, set a Cyber Monday spending limit before you start clicking around websites.

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4 fun things to do in Philly this week

Head to The Franklin Institute after hours, taste a brand new specially-made gin and more.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this week? We've got you covered.

Science After Hours

This Tuesday, The Franklin Institute will be hosting another colorful Science After Hours event and this week's theme is "Home Alone." Guests can tinker with simple catapults and ziplines as you explore the physics behind the classic booby traps seen in film, check out tarantulas from Drexel University's Academy of Natural Sciences, learn how to pick a lock, see how your brain processes different sensations and stimuli through brain mapping demonstrations and much more. As a bonus, The Franklin Institute is also offering free entry to its new exhibit, "The Worst-Case Scenario: Survival Experience."

Dec. 3, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., The Franklin Institute, 222 N 20th St., $20-$25, fi.edu

"Music Beyond the Fanlight"

Philadelphians can head to the Museum of the American Revolution this week to indulge in 18th-century Irish music during "Music Beyond the Fanlight: An 18th-Century Dublin Entertainment" held in the MOAR's elegant Liberty Hall. The concert coincides with the museum's latest exhibit, "Cost of Revolution: The Life and Death of an Irish Soldier." According to the release, guests will be transported to the concert halls, theaters, and grand private houses of the Irish Georgian capital through popular music of the period accompanied by images of art and architecture and interspersed with stories about Dublin personalities in the 1700s. Tickets also include admission to the "Cost of Revolution" special exhibition.

Dec. 4, 6 p.m., Museum of the American Revolution, 101 S 3rd St., $10-$20, amrevmuseum.org

Prohibition Cocktail Party

This week, Master Distiller Max Pfeffer of Manatawny Still Works is releasing a specially created gin made with the team at Queen Village hotspot, the Hungry Pigeon. To celebrate, MSW is throwing a Prohibition Cocktail Party to commemorate the restaurant's new spirit (which boasts a blend of juniper, lemon, bay leaf, fennel, dill and peppercorn). According to a release, Brian Bolles of Hungry Pigeon will create a cocktail menu for the evening and chef-owner Scott Schroeder will create a few bites using his new gin as an ingredient. The event is pay-as-you-go, and guests are invited to stay and enjoy dinner afterward.

Dec. 5, 5 p.m. -6:30 p.m., Hungry Pigeon, 743 S 4th St., pay-as-you-go, hungrypigeon.com

Tinsel & Tidings at The Logan's Holiday Lodge

The first three Thursdays of December are getting really festive at The Logan Hotel in downtown Philadelphia. The new Holiday Lodge themed area at The Logan will feature a Santa Letter-Writing station in collaboration with Philly Typewriter and The Papery, a Winter Ski Lodge Bar serving hot cocoa and festive toppings and specialty holiday cocktails that guests can sip on by a fire and a Holiday Polaroid station with fun-loving props and a chic, modern-day Santa Claus. According to the release, The Logan's Holiday Lodge will also be hosting a series of weekly, interactive workshops with local partners such as wreath-making with May with Love and personalized candles with Wax + Wine. The property's farm-to-table restaurant, Urban Farmer, will also be hosting a gingerbread cookie and hot chocolate class as well.

Dec 5, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m., The Logan Hotel, 1 Logan Sq, prices vary, curiocollection3.hilton.com

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7 Christmas tree lighting celebrations to attend in Philly

Get in the holiday spirit at breweries, City Hall and more throughout the city.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Santa can't resist snuggling with pup by the South Street tree ALL IMAGES PROVIDED

It's officially time to be jolly. Your favorite neighborhood districts, parks and more are planning festive parties complete with visits from Santa, music and free treats to celebrate the holiday season. Here are seven Christmas tree lighting ceremonies to attend this week.

South Street Headhouse District

Get ready for an evening of snacks, entertainment and shopping to help kick off your December on day one. Make your way over to Head House Square to watch as it transforms into a winter wonderland just off South St. Have you been naughty or nice this year? The South Street Headhouse District invited Santa to collect wish lists and take photos. Parents should bring their own cameras to capture the memory. *Dec. 1, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m., Head House Square, 200 Pine St., southstreet.com*

'Twas an Evil Christmas at Evil Genius Beer Company

Evil Genius knows how to start the most wonderful time of the year. Their annual party includes a seasonal beer release, Christmas cookies and

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photos beside the Christmas tree. Don't miss having the first chance to try their seasonal Santa! I Know Him! saison brewed with black currants, a Belgian candi syrup and rose hips. *Dec. 3, 7 p.m., Evil Genius Beer Company, 1727 N Front St., evilgeniusbeer.com*

Rittenhouse Square
Celebrate the magic of the season in one of the city's most romantic parks. Count down to lighting the 30-foot Christmas tree with music, a visit from Santa and family-friendly activities. Make sure you catch the Philly POPS performance and try free treats from iconic restaurant Parc. In addition to enjoying all the entertainment, bring a new unwrapped toy to contribute to CBS3's annual Toy Fest campaign *Dec. 3, 5 p.m., Rittenhouse Square, 19th and Walnut Streets, friendsofrittenhouse.org*

City of Philadelphia
Welcome Christmas right in the middle of the city during the annual Christmas tree lighting at City Hall. It's an evening of onstage music, entertainment and enough joy to go around as City Hall officially lights up for Christmas. Afterward, take a ride on the brand new ferris wheel to get a good view of Christmas Village and don't miss seeing the Deck the City Hall Light Show. *Dec. 4, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., City Hall, JFK Blvd. and N Broad St., phila.gov*

Craft Hall
Enjoy an indoor tree lighting party at this beer hall and maker space in Northern Liberties. The massive hall turns into a cozy and festive space with music and decorations to match all month long. Toast the start of the season with food and drink specials, enjoy family activities at the indoor playground and take a free tour of Lost Bread Company and Mainstay Brewing Company. *Dec. 4, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., Craft Hall, 901 N Delaware Ave., crafthallphilly.com*

East Passyunk
Kick off the festive season in South Philly with the annual tree lighting at Singing Fountain. Enjoy an evening of carols with singers from Alphabet Academy, a visit from Santa and free sips and nibbles from businesses along E Passyunk Ave. After the tree lighting, follow the String Band Mummers to take advantage of extended shopping hours to find decor for your holiday parties, presents and more. *Dec. 5, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., Singing Fountain, E Passyunk Ave. and Tasker St., visiteastpassyunk.com*

Old City
Old City's historic district that gets even more charming during the holidays. Old City District presents their third annual Historic Holidays Tree Lighting with a party in the Betsy Ross House courtyard. Florist and garden designer Petit Jardin en Ville (134 N 3rd St.) designed the tree that will be lit during the ceremony. Grab a few bites at the celebration before doing a little window shopping. Businesses in the district compete with a holiday window decorating contest every year. *Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Betsy Ross House, 239 Arch St., oldcitydistrict.org*

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Shows his strength and weaknesses ADAM DRIVER

The American actor turns 36 with lots of new movies coming out.

GABRIELA ACOSTA SILVA, MWN
letters@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

'Fashion,' 'fame' and 'celebrity' are words that Adam Driver doesn't like very much, because they show a side he avoids from his career as an actor. Driver turned 36 this Tuesday, Nov. 19, and in an interview with Metro he talked about several important movies that will be released before the end of the year.

"Marriage Story," "The Dead Don't Die," "The Report" and "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" (which will premiere on Dec. 19) are the films that mark a special season for the actor.

You're keeping up a good pace. How do you keep from wearing out when working each character?
You do the projects you like, I never think if they are too many or too few. I like working on the characters, I am very disciplined and I focus 100 percent on each project. I am not one of those who think about taking sabbaticals, it is not in my DNA. I can tell you that I like to work and that taking time off is not very common for me, but I do find moments to relax and enjoy life outside film sets.

You have a good record of projects. Do you like to find a balance between them?
I like to generate new experiences and learnings. I have made sci-fi films, dramas, thriller, adventure and comedy, although they may be black comedy. I am also entering the musical grounds, with the film "Annette," which is the one I am shooting at the moment. I like to explore all sides of performance, sometimes they are commercial and sometimes very independent.

What can you tell us about "The Report?"
It is a political thriller based on real-life events on the investigation of the CIA Detention and Interrogation Program created after 9/11. I play Daniel J. Jones, the employee in charge of conducting the investigation. He is a character that has generated several confrontations on an emotional level, because it is a strong story full of contrasts.

Do you feel comfortable starring in blockbusters like "Star Wars," as well as smaller movies?
I feel comfortable working, because I choose projects that generate emotion. Obviously a "Star Wars" production involves entering lands not very familiar to me, because there are many special effects and so many people; besides, I'm a villain with Kylo Ren. It's like trying to combine all tastes into one. I am more used to working with small groups and on small sets, but that does not mean that I do not like being part of big productions, because there I'm like a kid that's in awe with every scene. In the end, it took me a while to get used to the different rhythms.

What's your best anecdote as an actor so far?
Everything was going well with my independent projects, there were people who recognized me on the street, but it wasn't like they kept staring. After making "Star Wars" everything changed and it is difficult to escape the photos. Some time ago I was riding my bicycle, suddenly a police patrol stopped me. First I laughed because I never thought I could pass the speed limit on two wheels, but it wasn't like that; in the end, the policeman stopped me because they wanted a picture with me. [*Laughs*]

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Sustainable cosmetics: From niche products to a prevailing trend

A few years ago, products with good human and environmental practices were only a few. Now they want to dominate the market.

LUZ LANCHEROS MWN

"Cruelty free" cosmetics (cosmetic products not tested on animals) a few years ago was made up of a few small enterprises whose main feature was the fact that they were sustainable. These were positioned in the middle of the wide range of natural products that had a spot in the market as an alternative to products made with processed ingredients. But by 2019, after 60 years of fighting, today there are regulatory associations for these products and a majority market in Europe, followed by Asia and the United States, according to MarketWatch. This is not only limited to products free from animal testing: sulfate-free and paraben-free products, as well as fair trade products, are also in high demand from consumers, while several large brands such as Henkel and L'Oreal have started to produce them more massively.

Of course, natural products have always existed. But this time new generations of consumers look for brands with a purpose. Brands that no longer have precedents of labor exploitation and leave wastes that lead to phenomena, that at least in the beauty industry, are reflected in plastic pollution. In fact, in the United States, 90 billion of these are sold annually and the amount of personal care containers has increased more than 120 times since 1960. 70 percent of that waste goes to landfills. Now, the plastic packaging business represents approximately 25 billion dollars in sales.

54 billion

in sales for the organic cosmetics market will be reached by 2027, according to a study by Persistence Market Research.

In addition, it does not help that many ingredients in traditional cosmetics cause diseases.

Therefore, from the concept to its ingredients and the production process, consumers seek honest and ethical practices in this growing trend that today is considered a responsible purchase.

Natural, yes please, but transparent too

"Products must not only be certified by regulated and authorized sustainability institutions worldwide, brands must comply with having natural ingredients and also with having a fair trade. Containers, which cause so much pollution, must be recycled and recyclable, as we do in our company. It is a good benefit for the client and profit for those involved," explains Victor April, Global Advocate for Henkel, which has a new sustainable line, Authentic Beauty Concept. "All the brand's products have different ingredients and Guar gum, which is grown in India. We help seven populations with this initiative, since we are looking for fair trade. We also seek that people buy their products to repackage them and not generate waste. That is why what we are looking for is to show not only how to use resources, but also how it is returned."

Today, organic products have ceased from being considered snob. Although its production costs more than a massive product, there are brands for all market ranges that seek to be transparent in at least some of their processes and seek to integrate much less pretentiously in their discourse through other brand stories. In the case of Authentic Beauty Concept, as with other brands in the field of fashion and beauty, it seeks an honest statement, not one looking for influencers and content much more focused on authenticity, a discourse that is almost a requirement for any brand that wants to understand today's consumers. "We don't want to sell an ideal image, because we are tired of seeing it. We want to highlight, right now, our own authenticity, our own uniqueness, go for what's natural and see that there is beauty in it," April adds.

For now, with the rise of major brands joining this production mode (even in fashion), it is seen that what was previously considered a luxury is reaching more of the public, either due to marketing or ingredients. Today what is "conscious" is not just a label to sell at a higher price, it is almost a must to identify what we use on a daily basis.

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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We have been absolutely killing it in this space with our primetime NFL picks lately, having hit on our last six games!

Here's the recent history: Ravens -3.5 over Rams on MNF, Colts +3.5 against Texans on TNF, Chiefs -5.5 over Chargers on MNF, Browns -2.5 over Steelers on TNF, Seahawks +6 over 49ers on MNF and Raiders +1 over Chargers on TNF.

We'll look to keep things rolling tonight as the Vikings take on the Seahawks in Seattle.

The Seahawks and Vikings are two of the hottest teams in the league as both squads have just one loss each since the start of October. Seattle, though, may have already peaked as the Eagles defense proved eight days ago that MVP candidate Russell Wilson is mortal. Wilson finished that one with a 75.4 passer rating, was picked off and was sacked six times.

ALL GETTY IMAGES

Minnesota can get to the quarterback pretty well as it is averaging 2.8 sacks per game (12th in NFL), though opponents have been having an easy time throwing the ball overall against the Vikes D as it is giving up 244.5 passing yards per game (20th in NFL).

Wilson should have a bounce back game, but don't expect another big running night from one of Seattle's potent running backs (Rashaad Penny, Chris Carson) as Minnesota's defense is giving up just 94.2 yards per game (sixth in NFL).

As for Minnesota's offense, Kirk Cousins has finally figured it out. In Cousins' last five games, he has thrown 12 touchdown passes with zero interceptions. Cousins and Minnesota are also well-rested as they are coming off their bye.

Adding to the concern that Seattle can cover the -2.5 spread in this one is that they have been unusually unreliable at home this season. In fact, both of Seattle's losses this season went down at CenturyLink Field and the 'Hawks are an ugly 1-4-0 against the spread at home this season.

The play: Vikings +2.5

TWEET OF THE DAY

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REPORT: Jason Garrett has been put up for sale for $5 as a part of a Black Friday special at a Dallas WalMart.
So far, no takers.

Best bets

NBA betting: Jazz at Sixers

The Sixers will meet the Jazz for the second and final time this season tonight at Wells Fargo Center, with Philly looking for a bit of revenge following their 106-104 loss in Utah late last month.

Bet this game now and get a free $50 VISA gift card as well as $250 in free bonus money by going to **MetroBet.us/Sugar** and entering promo code:

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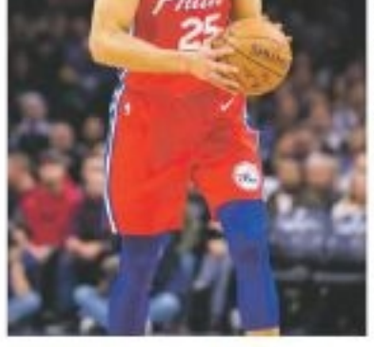
The Jazz outrebounded the Sixers 50-42 in the first meeting, with Utah center Rudy Gobert pulling down a whopping 16 boards.

It was no fault of Joel Embiid, who also grabbed 16 rebounds and posted a game-high 27 points.

What should make a difference this time around for the Sixers is that they will have Ben Simmons at full strength. Simmons played just 10 minutes and finished with only two points in Utah due to a sore shoulder.



The Sixers are a perfect 8-0 at home this season, though they are just 4-5-0 against the spread at home. Utah is 4-6 on the road so far in 2019-20 and is also 4-6 ATS on the road.

Like Philadelphia to cover the seven points.

The play: Sixers -7

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Eagles defense collapses in embarrassing loss to Dolphins

Miami picked up its third win of the season after Fitzpatrick, Parker torched the Birds on Thanksgiving weekend.

JOVAN ALFORD
sports@metro.us

DeVante Parker (11) had his way with Jalen Mills (31) and the Eagles defense on Sunday afternoon as the Dolphins upset Philadelphia in Miami. GETTY IMAGES

Unlike the previous two games, where the Philadelphia Eagles' offense struggled to score points, it was the defense that struggled on Sunday in a 37-31 upset loss to the Miami Dolphins.

With the defeat, the Eagles are on a three-game losing streak and missed a prime opportunity to tie for the Cowboys for the top spot in the NFC East.

Earlier this week, Dallas lost 26-15 to the Buffalo Bills on Thanksgiving.

But Philadelphia's offense couldn't keep up with the Dolphins despite coming to life on Sunday afternoon after only scoring 19 total points in their last previous games.

Carson Wentz — who had one of the worst games of his career last weekend against the Seattle Seahawks — bounced back against the Dolphins' struggling defense.

The 6-foot-5 gunslinger completed 61 percent of his passes for 310 yards, three touchdowns, and an interception. The last time Wentz had at least two touchdown passes was back in Week 6 against the Minnesota Vikings.

Coincidentally, that game was also the last time an Eagles wide receiver scored a touchdown.

Speaking of wide receivers, Nelson Agholor and Alshon Jeffery returned to the field on Sunday after missing last week's game against Seattle.

Jeffery led the team in receiving with nine receptions (16 targets) for 137 yards and a touchdown. Agholor had three receptions (six targets) for41 yards and caught a two-point conversion in the second quarter.

In regards to the Dolphins, Ryan Fitzpatrick shook off a rough start to torch the Eagles' secondary. The former Harvard man completed 69.2-percent of his passes for 365 yards, three touchdowns, and an interception.

Fitzpatrick's favorite target on Sunday was wide receiver DeVante Parker, who racked up seven receptions (10 targets) for 159 yards and two touchdowns.

On the very first play of the game, the Eagles' defense set the tone right away as veteran cornerback Ronald Darby intercepted Fitzpatrick. It was the first time in Fitzpatrick's career that he has thrown an interception on the first play.

After the Darby interception, it did not take long for the Eagles' offense to score a touchdown. On 3rd-&-7 at the Dolphins' 15-yard-line, Wentz found rookie running back Miles Sanders in the flat for a touchdown.

The play and throw were eerily similar to what the Eagles ran on their first offensive possession last Sunday against Seattle. However, unlike last week where Wentz overthrew Sanders, they made sure to complete it this time.

With the Eagles on the scoreboard first, it was now time for Fitzpatrick and the Dolphins' offense to respond. But Philadelphia's defense forced them into a quick three-and-out, which was capped off by a Josh Sweat sack.

A few minutes later, the Eagles' offense put together another scoring drive, which was capped off by a Jake Elliott 48-yard field goal.

After both teams traded punts, the Dolphins scored their first touchdown with three minutes left in the opening quarter.

On 4th-&-4, Fitzpatrick threw the ball up to Parker, who leaped over Darby for a 43-yard touchdown reception. The Eagles dialed up the blitz, which gave the Dolphins a favorable one-on-one matchup to exploit.

They quickly provided a swift response to another Elliott field goal in the second quarter which temporarily made it 13-7.

Fitzpatrick and Co. produced a 13-play, 75-yard scoring drive, which saw Parker make another ridiculous catch on third down with 9:41 left in the first half.

The Dolphins ended the possession with a trick play on 4th-&-Goal as punter Matt Haack found kicker Jason Sanders for a flip pass touchdown. It was the third consecutive game where the Eagles' defense has given up a trick-play touchdown.

With 4:40 left in the first half and the Dolphins holding a 14-13 lead, the Eagles responded with their own four-minute scoring drive. The drive ended with rookie wide receiver J.J. Arcega-Whiteside catching his NFL touchdown.

Philadelphia went into halftime up 21-13 following an Agholor two-point conversion.

At the beginning of the third quarter, the Eagles' offense had a short field to work with as the Dolphins tried to catch them off guard with an onside kick.

Philadelphia put together a seven-play, 47-yard scoring drive, which ended with Wentz finding Jeffery for a 10-yard touchdown reception.

However, the Eagles' 28-14 lead would not last for long as Fitzpatrick found Parker for another touchdown a few minutes later, cutting Philadelphia's lead down to eight points.

With 4:34 remaining in the third quarter, Philadelphia had a chance tack on at least three points, but Elliott missed a 49-yard field goal for his first miss of the season.

The Dolphins took full advantage and scored their first touchdown of the second half as Fitzpatrick found tight end Mike Giescki in the back of the end zone.

With unease already surrounding the organization entering Week 13, a 28-26 lead after three quarters provided little relief.

Things got worse in the fourth quarter when Miami running back Patrick Laird scored a rushing touchdown and converted a two-point conversion to give Miami a 34-28 lead.

The teams would trade field goals in the final minutes, providing Wentz with a chance to tie the game with a hail mary as time expired. But it was intercepted in the back of the end zone to saddle the Eagles with their worst loss of the season.

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Phils interested in more Yanks

The Phillies' interest in free agent Yankees continues under Joe Girardi.

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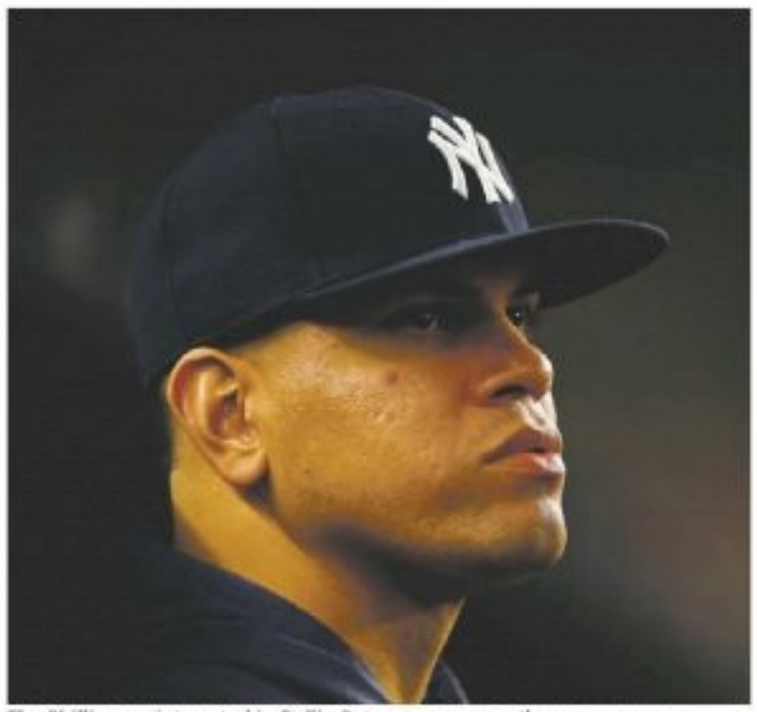

The Phillies are interested in Dellin Betances, among others. GETTY IMAGES

The Phillies already came away with a former New York Yankees manager this offseason.

Now they might want more.

According to George A. King III of the New York Post, the Phillies are showing interest in a pair of Yankees free agents in reliever Dellin Betances and catcher Austin Romine.

They could mount a serious pursuit of both players during Major League Baseball's Winter Meetings in San Diego next week.

This comes after reports in November revealed that the Phillies were also interested in shortstop Didi Gregorius, who spent the past five seasons with the Yankees.

All three free agents spent considerable time working with Girardi during his days as Yankees manager.

With the Phillies in need of bullpen help following a 2019 season dotted by injuries and inconsistencies, Betances is the most enigmatic name of the Bronx-based trio.

Injuries came at the worst possible time for the 31-year-old righty, who was limited to just two-thirds of an inning of work in 2019.

While he's experienced some struggles even when healthy, Betances is one of the better late-game relievers in the game, posting a 2.22 ERA over the last five seasons.

He's also one of the premier strikeout pitchers in baseball with 607 punchouts in just 373.1 innings of work.

That's a sterling 14.6 strikeouts-per-nine-innings ratio.

His injury-riddled 2019 might create hesitation within the Phillies' ranks.

After all, this is a team that spent $57.25 million since 2018 on Tommy Hunter, Pat Neshek and David Robertson. But those three arms have combined to appear in just 127 games.

Behind the plate, Romine would provide the Phillies with a legitimate backup option to JT Realmuto. In 72 games with the Yankees last season, he slashed .281/.310/.439 with eight home runs and 35 RBIs.

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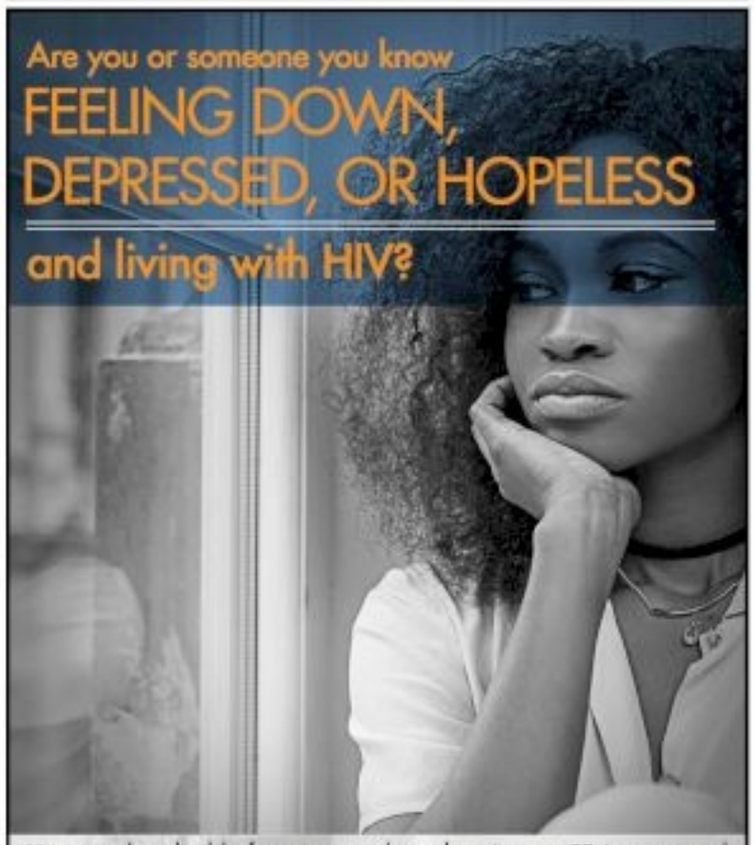
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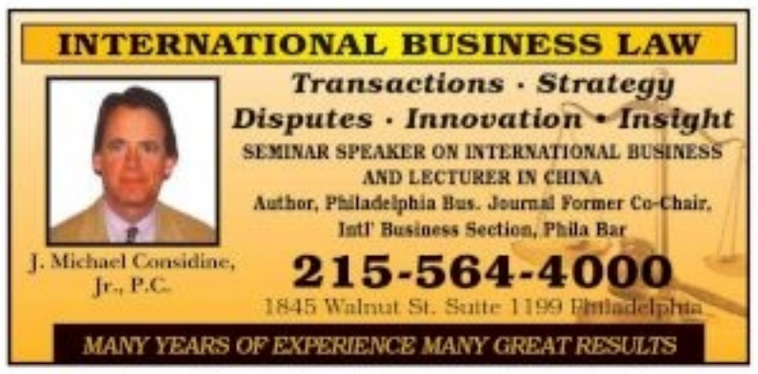
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Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, November Term, 2019, No. 191100713.

Notice is hereby given that on November 18, 2019, the petition of Sheranthie Rajapaksa Dona was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to Dimungupodige Indrarohini Thilakangani.

The Court has fixed court date December 9, 2019 at 11:00AM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing.

All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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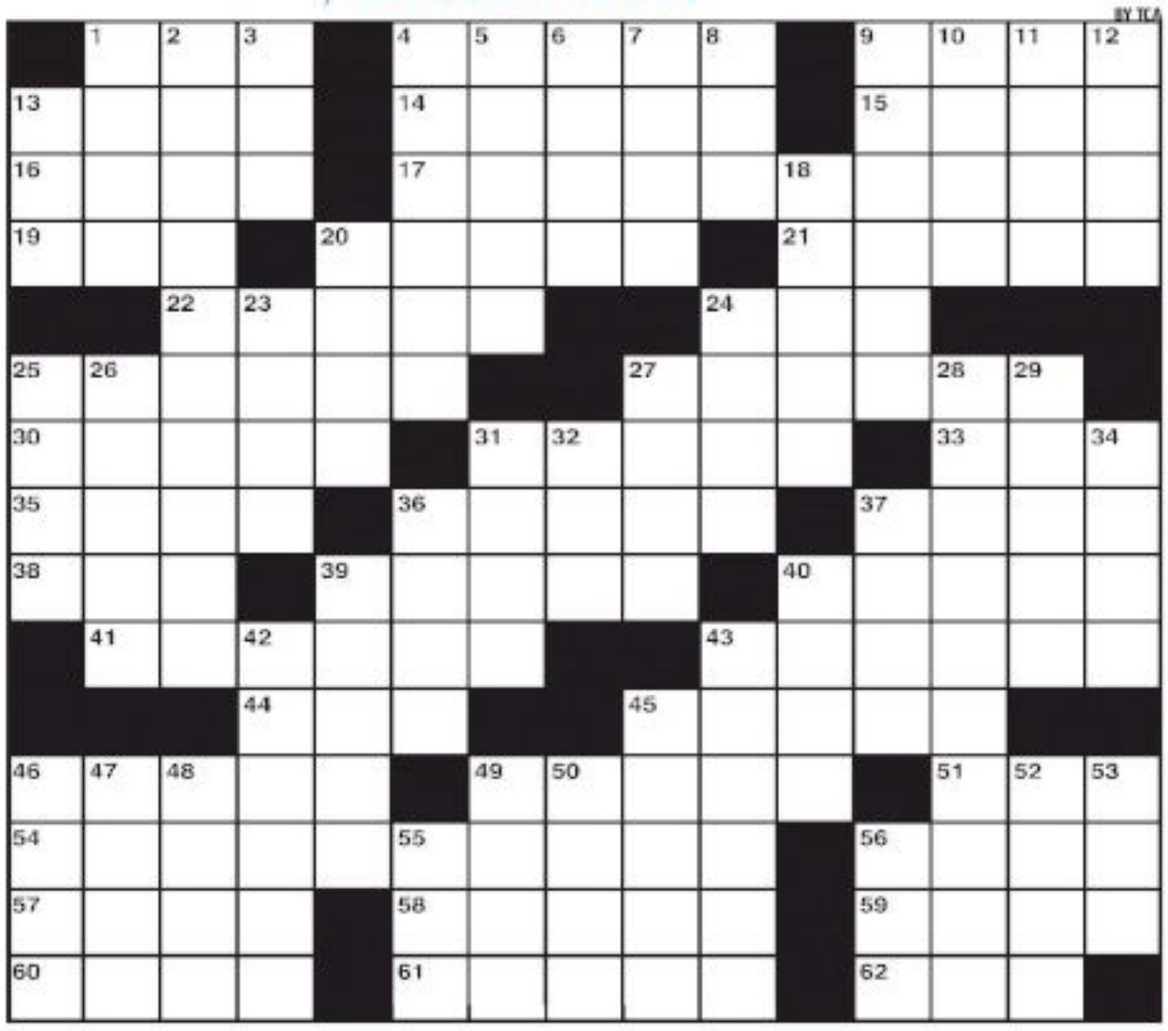

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13 Forbidden thing
14 Cash, slangily
15 Flood survivor
16 Up in __; furious
17 Make widely known
19 Stinger
20 Freeway exits
21 Lubricated
22 Train tracks
24 __ away; fled
25 Point the finger at
27 Loathe
30 Complain childishly
31 __ Jessica Parker
33 Soda __; soft drink
35 Huck's transport
36 Brake or accelerator
37 Celebration
38 "Are __ Lonesome Tonight?"
39 Lavish meal
40 Recess in a wall
41 Zigzag skiing
43 Horse's gait
44 Lion's lair
45 Asian nation
46 Weight revealer
49 Weak
51 Shed tears
54 Building for a performance
56 Chimney pipe
57 Word before apple or Louie
58 Fairy tale
59 Quiz
60 Building super's ringful
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1 Days gone by
2 Coldhearted
3 __ Alamos, NM
4 Pierce with a harpoon
5 Accepted standards
6 Thrown for a __; gob-smacked
7 Lawn trees
8 Grecian's "T"
9 Motor
10 Aim
11 __-crasher; uninvited attendee
12 Small storage building
13 Catch a thief
18 Reluctant
20 Go upward
23 Female relation
24 Authentic
25 Amiss; askew
26 Bedlam
27 "Phooey!"
28 Wearing glasses
29 __ point; relevant
31 Stitched joining
32 Want __; newspaper section
34 Look through a keyhole
36 Lowly laborer
37 Many a Scandinavian
39 Armada
40 Metal fastener
42 Speaks without preparation
43 Wind __; porch tinklers
45 Fill in cracks
46 Quarterback's undoing
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